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ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

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GRACE

(1) Ver. vii: F.Y.I.
(2) letter R.C.F.

Construction Products Division

W.R. Grace & Co.
62 Whittemore Avenue
Cambridge, Mass. 02140

(617) 876-1400

July 20, 1983

Ernest Drucker, Ph.D.
Department of Social Medicine
Montefiore Hospital & Medical Center
111 East 210th Street
Bronx, NY 10467

Dear Dr. Drucker:

This is in response to your questions concerning the asbestos content of MONOKOTE® Fireproofing.

Monokote (Type MK-5) is a cementitious fireproofing product, manufactured by the Construction Products Division of W. R. Grace & Co., without the addition of any commercial asbestos.

Monokote does contain vermiculite, a naturally occurring material, mined from deposits which may have asbestiform tremolite containing rock. Except for trace amounts, the tremolite is removed in the processing of vermiculite. It is this processed vermiculite which is used in Monokote.

Since introduction of Monokote Type MK-5 to the marketplace in 1973, we have had the product tested for asbestos, a number of times, by independent testing laboratories. Attached are copies of the two most recent analyses; one completed by Arthur D. Little, Inc., in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and the other by the Environmental Science Laboratories of Mt. Sinai Hospital. Based on these analyses, we believe that Monokote is asbestos-free.

In addition to performing analyses of Monokote, from time to time since its introduction, we have also performed air sampling tests under actual jobsite conditions on workers who use the product. In our most recent tests conducted in April of 1983, using the approved NIOSH Method, we ran tests on the Mixer/Pump Operator, the Spray Nozzle Operator, and the Overspray Clean-up Man. The data and calculations from these tests are attached. As these results show, the tremolite exposure is significantly below any government standards and, in fact, is far below any reliably detectable amount.

We do not publish data on air sampling tests as we consider it to be proprietary information. We request that you use the information and the two attached letters solely in communicating to the Sheet Metal Contractors Association and other similar clients to whom you provide health consultation.

If you have any other questions about Monokote, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Ericson
Robert C. Ericson
Director of Quality Assurance

RCE/ko'c
Attachments

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